CUSTOMER NO.
34456

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A video distribution system comprising:

a receiver operable to receive a multiplexed signal comprising a plurality of encoded video information streams;

a first decoder communicatively coupled to the receiver and operable to decode a first video information stream of the multiplexed signal;

a second decoder communicatively coupled to the receiver and operable to decode a second video information stream of the multiplexed signal;

a combiner operable to output a composite signal for communication via a premise network, the composite signal comprising a decoded first video information stream modulated to a first radio frequency band associated with a first user and a decoded second video information stream modulated to a second radio frequency band associated with a second user; ~~and~~

a remote control mechanism operable to communicate a request signal to the first decoder requesting that the first decoder decode a different video information stream of the multiplexed signal; and

an access engine to authenticate that a user of the remote control mechanism is associated with the first radio frequency band.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising:

a diplexer operable to distinguish between upstream and downstream communication flow, the diplexer further operable to output the multiplexed signal to the receiver; and

a modem communicatively coupled to the diplexer and operable to output data traffic to the diplexer.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the remote control mechanism is further operable to communicate using a wireless local area network communication protocol.

4. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a radio frequency communication module operable to support at least a portion of a communication path interconnecting the remote control and the first decoder.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising:
a network interface operable to provide at least a portion of a communication path interconnecting the receiver and a wide area communication network; and
a communication module having a local area wireless transceiver.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the premise network comprises installed coaxial cable.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a modem device selected from the group consisting of a cable modem, a dial-up modem, a wireless modem, a satellite modem, and an xDSL modem.

8. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a messaging engine operable to initiate communication of message information via the premise network, wherein the message information represents a message sent using a service selected from the group consisting of electronic mail, mobile alerts, IM, SMS, EMS, and MMS.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a metric engine operable to track a metric associated with the first video information stream, wherein the metric is selected from the group consisting of a video stream content rating, an amount of time associated with outputting the decoded first video information stream, a cost associated with viewing the first video information stream, and an assigned programming channel for the first video information stream.

10. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a graphical user interface (GUI) engine operable to initiate presentation of a GUI on a television display communicatively coupled to the premise network.

11. (Currently Amended) A distribution method comprising:

receiving an incoming signal that comprises information representing a plurality of video streams;

generating a first modulated signal representing first video stream information modulated within a first frequency band associated with a first user;

generating a second modulated signal representing second video stream information modulated within a second frequency band associated with a second user;

authenticating the first user at an access engine to allow the first user to modify the first modulated signal; and

outputting a combined signal to a premise network, the combined signal comprising the first modulated signal and the second modulated signal.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the first frequency band comprises an approximately six megahertz block of the radio spectrum.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the incoming signal comprises a direct broadcast satellite signal.

14. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the incoming signal comprises a cable television signal.

15. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the premise network comprises a coaxial cable network installed in a residential home.

16. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the incoming signal comprises a multiplexed MPEG stream.

17. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising tracking a metric associated with the first frequency band, wherein the metric is selected from the group consisting of a video stream content rating for first video stream information, an amount of time associated with viewable content modulated on the first frequency band, a cost associated with the viewable content, and an assigned programming channel for the viewable content.

18. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

splitting the incoming signal into at least two intermediate signals, each of the at least two intermediate signals comprising first video stream information and second video stream information;

parsing one of the intermediate signals to find the first video stream information; and

parsing a second of the intermediate signals to find the second video stream information.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the incoming signal comprises a multiplexed MPEG stream, further comprising:

decoding the first video stream information; and

decoding the second video stream information.

20. (Currently Amended) A video distribution system, comprising:

a plurality of remote controllable channel output modules, each configured to output a signal modulated to an assigned frequency block associated with a particular user, the signal representing a decoded version of a selected MPEG video stream;

an access engine to authenticate a user of a remote control mechanism, wherein the access engine authenticates that the user is associated with the assigned frequency block; and

a premise network interface operable to output a composite signal to a premise network, the composite signal comprising a modulated signal from at least one of the plurality of remote controllable channel output modules.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the premise network comprises a wireless local area network.

22. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the premise network comprises coaxial cable.

23. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the assigned frequency block for a first of the remote controllable channel output modules comprises a range of approximately 60 to 66 MHz, the assigned frequency block for a second of the remote controllable channel output modules comprises a range of approximately 66 to 72 MHz, and the assigned frequency block for a third of the remote controllable channel output modules comprises a range of approximately 76 to 82 MHz.

24. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the assigned frequency blocks correspond to portions of the Very High Frequency spectrum assigned to television channels.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Original) The system of claim 20, further comprising a first remote controllable channel output module fixed to output information to one assigned frequency block.

27. (Original) The system of claim 20, further comprising a table mapping each of a plurality of viewers to at least one assigned frequency block.

28. (Original) The system of claim 20, further comprising a graphical user interface (GUI) engine operable to initiate presentation of a GUI on a television display communicatively coupled to the premise network, wherein the GUI engine is further operable to initiate display of a GUI element indicating video programs represented by the selected MPEG video stream output by each of the plurality of remote controllable channel output modules.

29. (Currently Amended) A method of facilitating video distribution, comprising:
linking a plurality of users with associated carrier frequencies;
receiving a command from a first user;
authenticating that the first user is associated with a first carrier frequency;
modulating a decoded video stream identified by the command on ~~a~~ the first carrier frequency ~~associated with the first user~~; and
outputting the modulated stream to a premise network such that the first user can access the modulated stream by tuning a premise network connected television to the first carrier frequency ~~associated with the first user~~.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, further comprising:
receiving another command from a second user;
modulating a chosen decoded video stream identified by the other command on a second carrier frequency, wherein the second carrier frequency is associated with the second user; and
outputting the modulated chosen stream to the premise network such that the second user can access the modulated chosen stream by tuning a given premise network connected television to the second carrier frequency ~~associated with the second user~~.

32. (Original) The method of claim 29, further comprising tracking a viewing metric of the first user.

33. (Original) The method of claim 29, further comprising disabling access to a certain video stream for at least one of the plurality of users.

34. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the access engine employs a password authentication scheme.

35. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the access engine employs a biometric authentication scheme.

36. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the access engine employs a device based authentication scheme.

37. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the remote control mechanism is a wireless telephone.

38. (New) The system of claim 37, wherein the remote control mechanism has Bluetooth functionality.

39. (New) The method of claim 31, further comprising:
authenticating that the second user is associated with the second carrier frequency.

40. (New) A method, comprising:
linking a plurality of users with associated carrier frequencies;
receiving a channel request from a first user;
authenticating that the first user is associated with a first carrier frequency; and
comparing the channel request to a block list associated with the first carrier frequency.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, further comprising:
modulating a decoded video stream identified by the channel request on the first carrier frequency; and
outputting the modulated stream to a premise network such that the first user can access the modulated stream by tuning a premise network connected television to the first carrier frequency in response to determining that the channel request is not on the block list.

42. (New) The method of claim 40, further comprising:
notifying the first user that a channel associated with the channel request will not be displayed.